

Drivers urged to look out for slow-moving farm equipment

DOVER – With planting season getting underway, Delaware agriculture officials are advising drivers to be on the lookout for slow-moving farm equipment along the state's roads.



Farm equipment often moves from field to field along the state's highways at this time of the year.

"Spring is a busy time for Delaware farmers, with planting progressing rapidly," Secretary of Agriculture Ed Kee said. "Our farmers are careful and cautious when they use the roads, knowing that their equipment is often oversized and can distract drivers. I urge motorists to be similarly careful and alert to avoid accidents."

Farmers are encouraged to display a slow-moving vehicle emblem, and are required to turn off the road when it is safe when five or more vehicles are behind their equipment. They are also advised to use escort vehicles when using oversized equipment or when vision is blocked and turns are frequent. Most tractors travel at speeds under 25 mph.

Motorists can take safety steps that include paying attention to the road, passing with caution, allowing extra room when following slow-moving equipment, and being patient if a farmer can't immediately pull over.

"If you can't see a farmer in the cab, the farmer can't see you," Kee said. "Please slow down and give them and their

equipment space.”

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